

# U.S. Army Endodontic Short Course

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## ENDODONTIC DIAGNOSIS



### A. Chief Complaint

- Listen to the patient!
- Record symptoms or problems expressed by the patient in his or her own words.

### B. Health History

#### 1. Medical History

- Take a complete medical history for each new patient
  - Medications w/dosages
  - Allergies
  - Habits (alcohol, tobacco etc)
- **Update** the medical history of each patient of record
- Obtain baseline vital signs

#### 2. Dental History

- Summarize present and past dental treatment

#### 3. Present signs and symptoms

### C. Clinical Evaluation

- Subjective exam—ask questions regarding history of the present illness and symptoms
- Objective exam—check the general appearance
- Radiographic exam

### D. Clinical Tests

The objective is to discover which tooth is different from the patient's other teeth. Always test healthy control teeth first.

### E. Analyze the data you have collected

### F. Make an appropriate diagnosis and treatment plan